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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Date of Deposit: April 2, 2001

Applicant(s): M. MORISHITA et al

Serial No. :

Filed : Herewith

For : METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
GLASS PARTS FOR
CONNECTING OPTICAL
FIBERS, AND GLASS...

Art Unit :

Examiner :

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Barbara Villani
Barbara Villani

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the following amended claim 6 for the original claim 6:

6. (amended) A glass part for connecting optical fibers manufactured using the method claimed in claim 1, wherein said glass part has open ends and wherein at least one of the open ends of said glass part is tapered in such a manner that there is a continuous curved surface at a boundary between the at least one of the open ends and said internal hole.

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